

46 JUVENILE RAMBLES.

the impossibility of birds foretelling events, may be in like manner applied to the howling of dogs, and the ticking of death-watches.

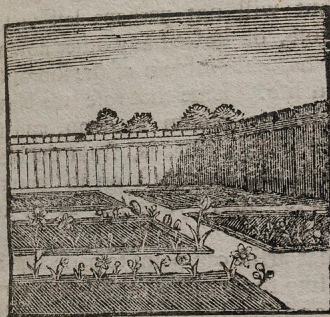
Among the number of foreign birds, the humming bird and the ostrich are the principal. The humming bird is the least and prettiest of all birds in the world. There are two sorts of these in the West Indies, of which the least is not larger than an humble bee. It has a small crest on its head, green at bottom, and gold at top, which, in the sun, sparkles and shines like a little star in the middle of the forehead. The ladies wear them in their ears for an ornament.

If the humming-bird be the smallest, the ostrich is the largest that we know of, being seven feet from the top of the head to the ground. It is said to be a silly bird, and lays its eggs in the sand, leaving the sun to hatch them. The feathers you now wear, my Charlotte, are the productions of that bird, and I hope you will take

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take care of them, for they are very dear. I see the footman is coming to call us to dinner.

R A M B L E V.



I See, Master Billy, that you are ready for another Ramble; but I think, Miss Charlotte, that the weather looks very doubtful: we will therefore amuse ourselves to-day with what the flower-garden